

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of an Office Action dated January 11, 2008. In this response, Applicants have added new claims 18-19. Support for the new claims may be found in the specification as originally filed, *inter alia*, on page 5, lines 20-23. Following entry of this amendment, claims 1-2, 4-6, and 9-19 remain pending in the application.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

On page 2 of the Office Action, the PTO has rejected claims 1-2, 4-6, and 9-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,228,475 to Trill (hereafter “Trill”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the reasons set forth below.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). See generally MPEP § 2131.

Here, Trill fails to disclose air guide housing comprising “two curved tracks arranged one above the other” as recited in claims 1 and 2. “When the specification states the meaning that a term in the claim is intended to have, the claim is examined using that meaning, in order to achieve a complete exploration of the applicant's invention and its relation to the prior art.” MPEP, §2173.05(a); *In re Zletz*, 893 F.2d 319, 13 USPQ2d 1320 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Applicants respectfully disagree with the PTO’s assertion that the two curved tracks are simply “a line of travel or motion.” Rather, the specification and drawings clearly show that the curved tracks are actual, physical tracks.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections under § 102.

Newly Added Claims

In this response, Applicants have added claims 18-19 which depend from claims 1 and 2, respectively. Applicants believe that claims 18-19 are allowable by virtue of their

dependency from one of independent claims 1 and 2, and also because of the additional features recited in each claim.

CONCLUSION


Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to **Deposit Account No. 19-0741**. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to **Deposit Account No. 19-0741**.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 4/4/08
FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5540
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By 
Paul D. Strain
Registration No. 47,369
Attorney for Applicant